

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of managing event schedules, the method comprising the computer implemented steps of:

initializing a calendar system;

generating an invitation list;

sending an invitation to a first scheduled event having a scheduled event time to a plurality of users in the invitation list;

receiving a plurality of acceptance messages associated with [[a]]the first scheduled event having [[a]]the scheduled event time, each of the plurality of acceptance messages associated with a respective user of the plurality of users;

identifying a schedule conflict of a user associated with an acceptance message of the plurality of acceptance messages[[:]] [[and]], wherein identifying the schedule conflict comprises:

accessing a schedule store of a data processing system that generated the acceptance message;

responsive to identifying the schedule conflict, calculating a probable attendance from the plurality of acceptance messages[[:]];

displaying each of the users and the respective probability value in a user interface;

forming a meeting status value from the calculated probable attendance from the plurality of acceptance messages ; and

conveying the meeting status value to at least one user associated with one of the plurality of acceptance messages.

2-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for managing event schedules, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for initializing a calendar system;

second instructions for generating an invitation list;

third instructions for sending an invitation to a first scheduled event having a scheduled event time in the invitation list;

[[first]]fourth instructions for receiving a plurality of invitation acceptance messages of [[a]]the scheduled event from a plurality of ~~clients~~users;

~~second~~ fifth instructions for interrogating ~~[[a]]the~~ respective calendar system of each of the plurality of ~~clients~~~~[[.]]~~ ~~[[and]]~~users, wherein interrogating the respective calendar system of each of the plurality of users includes the event schedule that conflicts with the scheduled event;

~~[[third]]~~sixth instructions that ~~calculate~~ calculates a respective probability value of attendance for each of the plurality of ~~clients~~users, wherein at least one probability value is weighted for an identified schedule conflict of a ~~client~~user of the plurality of ~~clients~~~~[[.]]~~users;

seventh instructions for displaying each of the users and the respective probability value in a user interface;

eighth instructions for forming a meeting status value from the probable attendance from the plurality of acceptance messages; and

ninth instructions for conveying the meeting status value to the at least one user associated with one of the plurality of acceptance messages.

8-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A data processing system for managing an electronic calendar system, comprising:

a memory that contains ~~[[a]]the~~ electronic calendar system as a set of instructions;

a processing unit that generates an invitation list;

the processing unit that sends the invitation to a first scheduled event having a scheduled event time in the invitation list;

the processing unit that generates a list of users each associated with one of a plurality of acceptance messages;

a network adapter that receives ~~[[a]]the~~ plurality of acceptance messages; ~~[[and]]~~

~~[[a]]the~~ processing unit, responsive to execution of the set of instructions, that calculates a respective probability value associated with each of the plurality of acceptance messages and weights a probability value of an associated acceptance message responsive to identification of at least one scheduling conflict~~[[.]]~~;

a display device that displays a graphical output of the list of users on the display device;

the display device that displays a meeting status value, wherein the meeting status value is visually represented as a color of a plurality of colors each corresponding to a range of the possible meeting status values; and

the processing unit that conveys the meeting status value to the at least one user associated with one of the plurality of acceptance messages.

16-24. (Canceled)